



FACT SHEET

Environmental Restoration Program

Receive Site Fact Sheets by *Email*. See "For More Information" to Learn How.

Site Name: Sewall's Island
DEC Site #: E623021
Address: 400 Pearl Street
Watertown, NY 13601

Have questions?
See
"Who to Contact"
Below

Remedy Proposed for Municipal Brownfield Site; Public Comment Period and Public Meeting Announced

Public Meeting, Tuesday, 3/5/2013 at 7:00 PM

City of Watertown Common Council Chambers, 245 Washington Street, Watertown, New York 13601

NYSDEC invites you to a public meeting to discuss the remedy proposed for the site. You are encouraged to provide comments at the meeting, and during the 45-day comment period described in this fact sheet.

The public is invited to comment on a remedy proposed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) related to the Sewall's Island site ("site") located at 400 Pearl Street, Watertown, Jefferson County. Please see the map for the site location.

Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information."

How to Comment

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed remedial action plan for 45 days, from **February 1, 2013** through **March 18, 2013**. The proposed plan is available for review at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information." Please submit comments to the NYSDEC project manager listed under Project Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area below.

Proposed Remedial Action Plan

The remedy proposed for the site includes:

1. A remedial design program will be implemented to provide the details necessary for the construction.
2. A site cover will be required to allow for commercial use of the site.
3. Imposition of an institutional control in the form of an environmental easement to control future use, use of groundwater, monitor for vapor intrusion and require a Site Management Plan.

Summary of the Investigation

NYSDEC developed the proposed remedy after reviewing the detailed investigation of the site and evaluating the remedial options in the “analysis of alternatives” submitted under New York’s Environmental Restoration Program by City of Watertown.

Next Steps

NYSDEC will consider public comments as it finalizes the remedy for the site. The selected remedy will be described in a document called a "Record of Decision" that will explain why the remedy was selected and respond to public comments.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup of the site.

Background

Site Location: The site is primarily located on an island in the Black River near Pearl Streets in the City of Watertown, Jefferson County and includes parcels on the north and south banks as well. The site is approximately 15 acres in size and contains five parcels on Sewall Island, two parcels on Huntington Street to the south, and four parcels on Water Street to the north.

Site Features: The main site features include the concrete pads and foundations of industrial buildings that have been razed, fill, debris, driveways, and a railroad bed. The site is mostly level. The Black River divides at the eastern end of the island, flows around both the north and south sides and merges again to the west. The island is connected to the shore by two bridges at the north and south along Pearl Street.

Current Zoning and Use: The site is currently inactive and is zoned for commercial use. The surrounding properties are currently used for a combination of commercial and light industrial, road ways and utility right-of-ways. The nearest residential areas are located approximately 300 feet north and south of the site across the Black River.

Past Uses of the Site: The site was used as an industrial foundry from the mid-1800s until the early 1990s. Most recently the site was home to the Bagley and Sewall Company, a maker of paper manufacturing machines. Operations at the site which may have contributed to its contamination include iron, steel, and brass casting, pulp grinding, machining, painting, sanding and paper milling. An on-site landfill for the disposal of foundry sand, with varying amounts of coke, slag, brick, metal, concrete and large pieces of the hardened impurities from the casting process was located southwest of the rail bed, and encompassed an approximately two acre area.

Site Geology and Hydrogeology: The site is comprised of fill overlying bedrock. Groundwater is found approximately 8-10 feet below grade and fluctuates with the Black River elevation. Groundwater flow is to the north and is consistent with the flow of the Black River.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=E623021>

Environmental Restoration Program: New York's Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) reimburses municipalities for their costs to investigate and clean up municipality owned contaminated properties. Once cleaned up, the properties may be redeveloped for commercial, industrial, residential or public use.

A brownfield is any real property that is difficult to reuse or redevelop because of the presence or potential presence of contamination.

For more information about the ERP, visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8444.html>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed.

Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library
Attn: Document Repository
229 Washington Street
Watertown, NY 13601
phone: 315-785-7705

Who to Contact

Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project Related Questions

Peter Ouderkirk
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Environmental Remediation
317 Washington St
Watertown, NY 13601-3787
315-785-2523
psouderk@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions

Nathan Freeman
New York State Department of Health
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation
Empire State Plaza Corning Tower Room 1787
Albany, NY 12237
518-402-7860
BEEI@health.state.ny.us

We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.

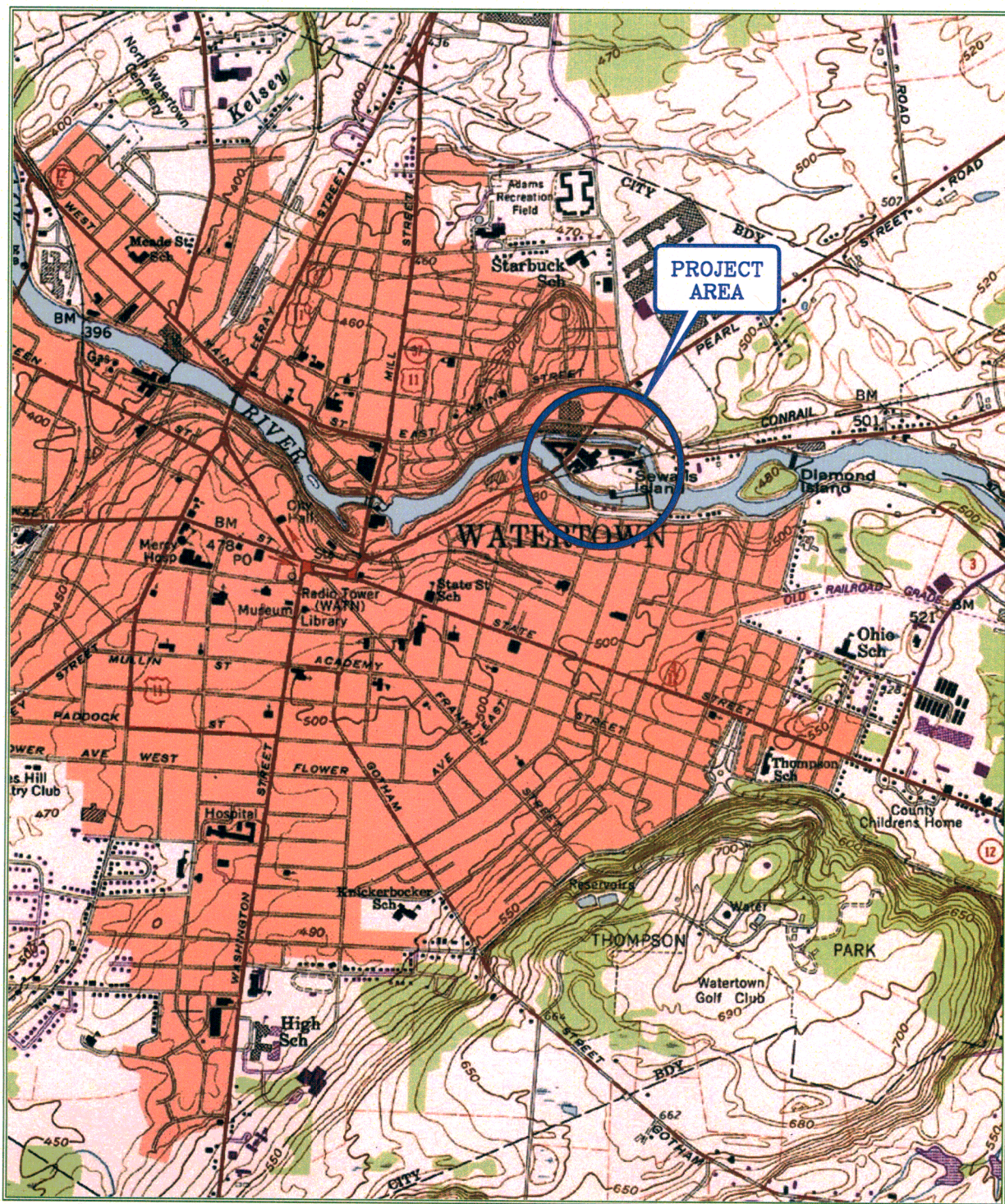
Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>. It's quick, it's free, and it will help keep you *better informed*.



As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.



SCALE: 1" = 2000'



FIGURE 1. SITE LOCATION MAP

SEWALL'S ISLAND PROJECT
CITY OF WATERTOWN
JEFFERSON COUNTY NEW YORK

DATE: MARCH 2012

SCALE: 1:24,000

DRAWN BY: DLS

MAP SOURCE: WATERTOWN QUADRANGLE
NEW YORK - JEFFERSON COUNTY
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
1959; PHOTOREVISED 1982